

State Water Planning & Conservation in Texas

Washington State Joint Legislative Task Force on Water Resources Mitigation

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State Water Planning

Origin

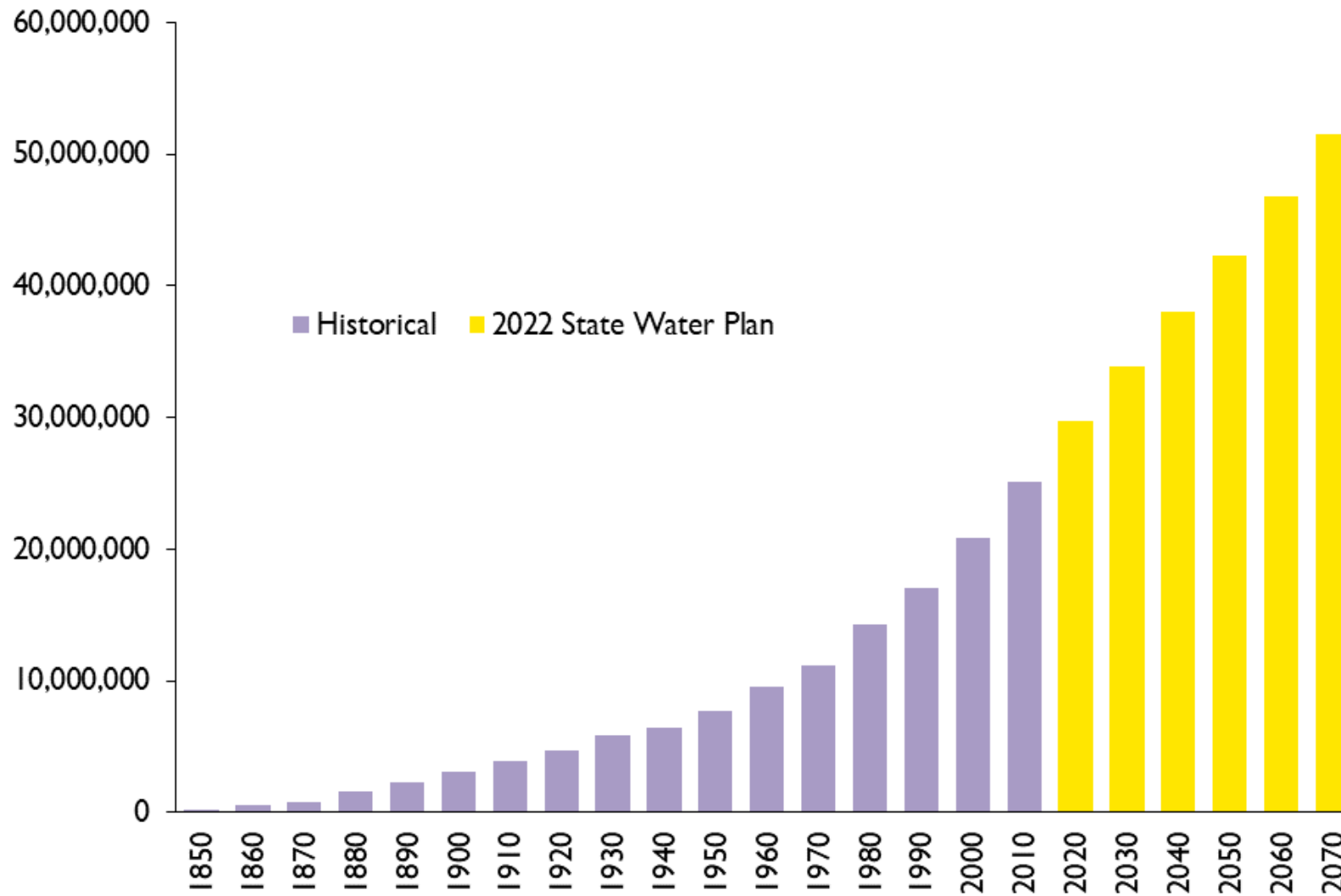
- Lack of implementation of state plans since 1950s
- Severe drought in mid-1990s
- Omnibus Senate Bill 1 in 1997

Purpose

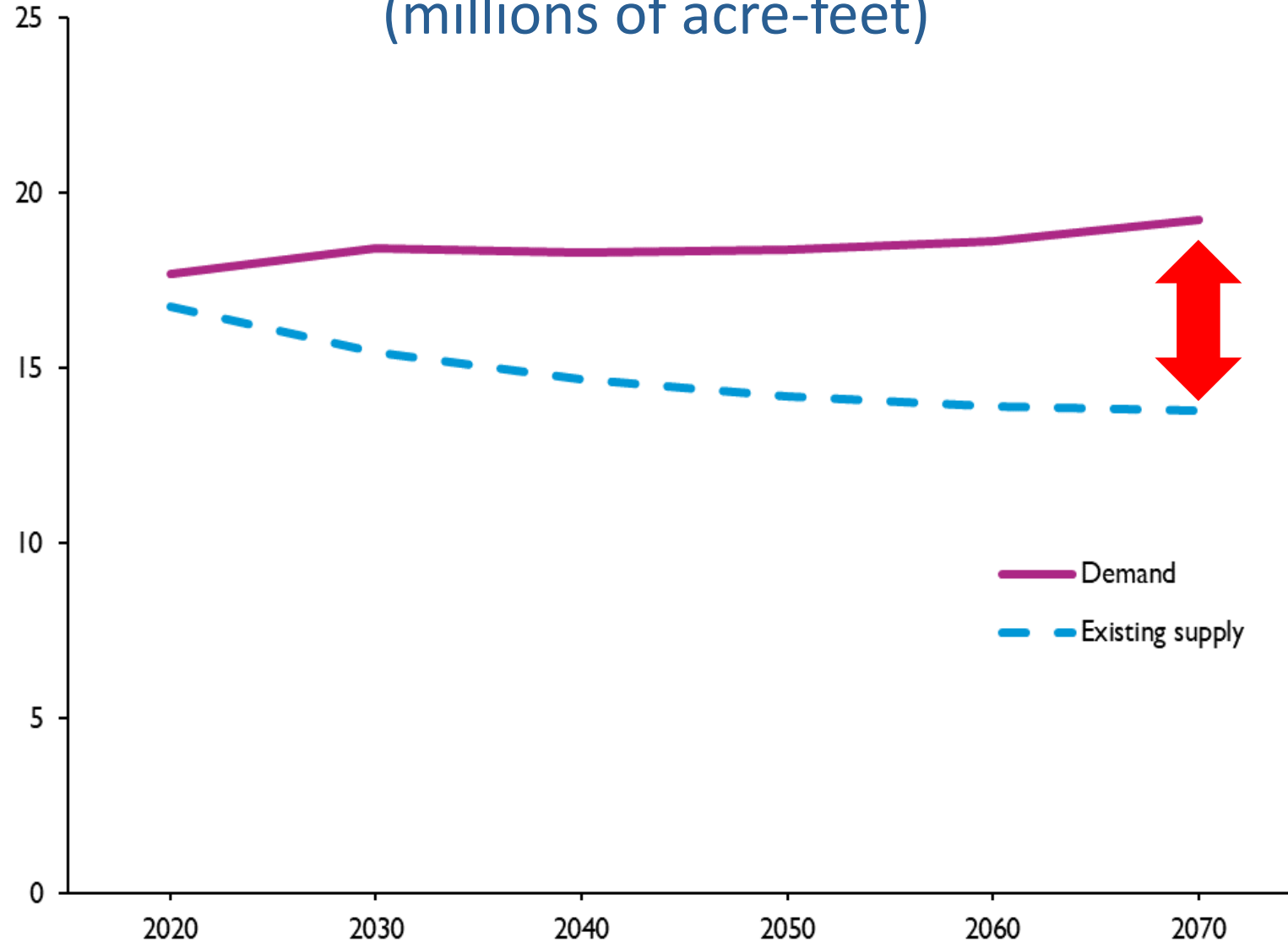
- Provide for the orderly development, management, and conservation of water resources
- **Prepare for and respond to drought conditions**



Projected Texas Population (millions)



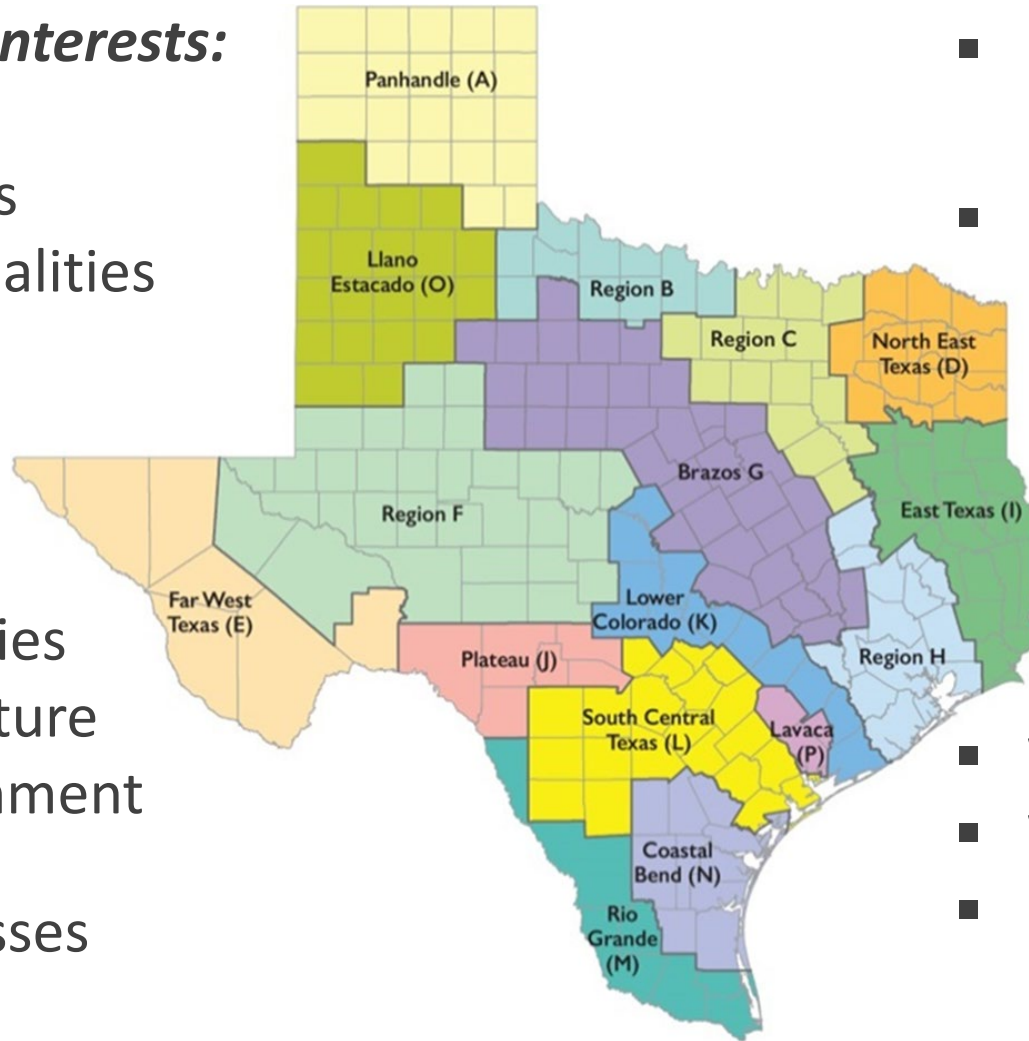
Projected Water Demand vs Existing Water Supplies (millions of acre-feet)



Regional Water Planning Process

Statutory interests:

- Public
 - Counties
 - Municipalities
- Electric-generating utilities
 - River authorities
- Industries
 - Agriculture
 - Environment
 - Small businesses
- Water districts
 - Water utilities
 - Groundwater management areas



Water Use Categories



Municipal



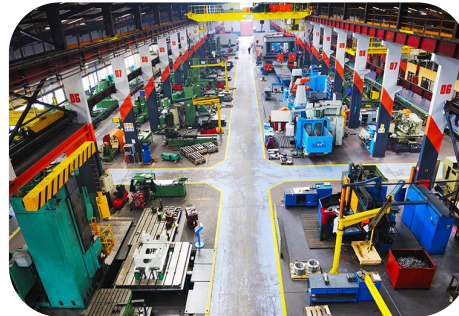
Irrigation



Livestock



Mining

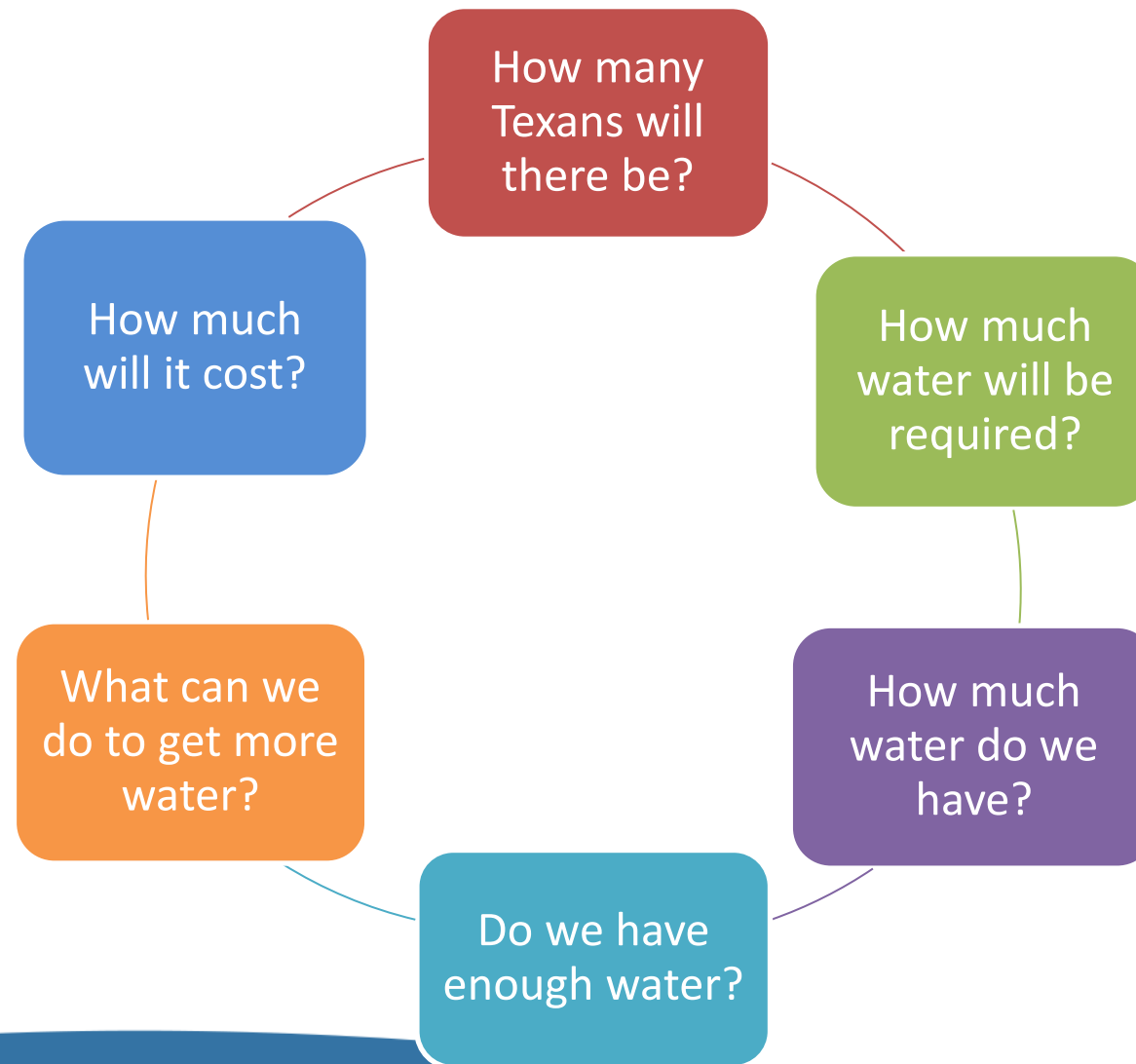


Manufacturing



Steam Electric

Planning in a nutshell



Conservation

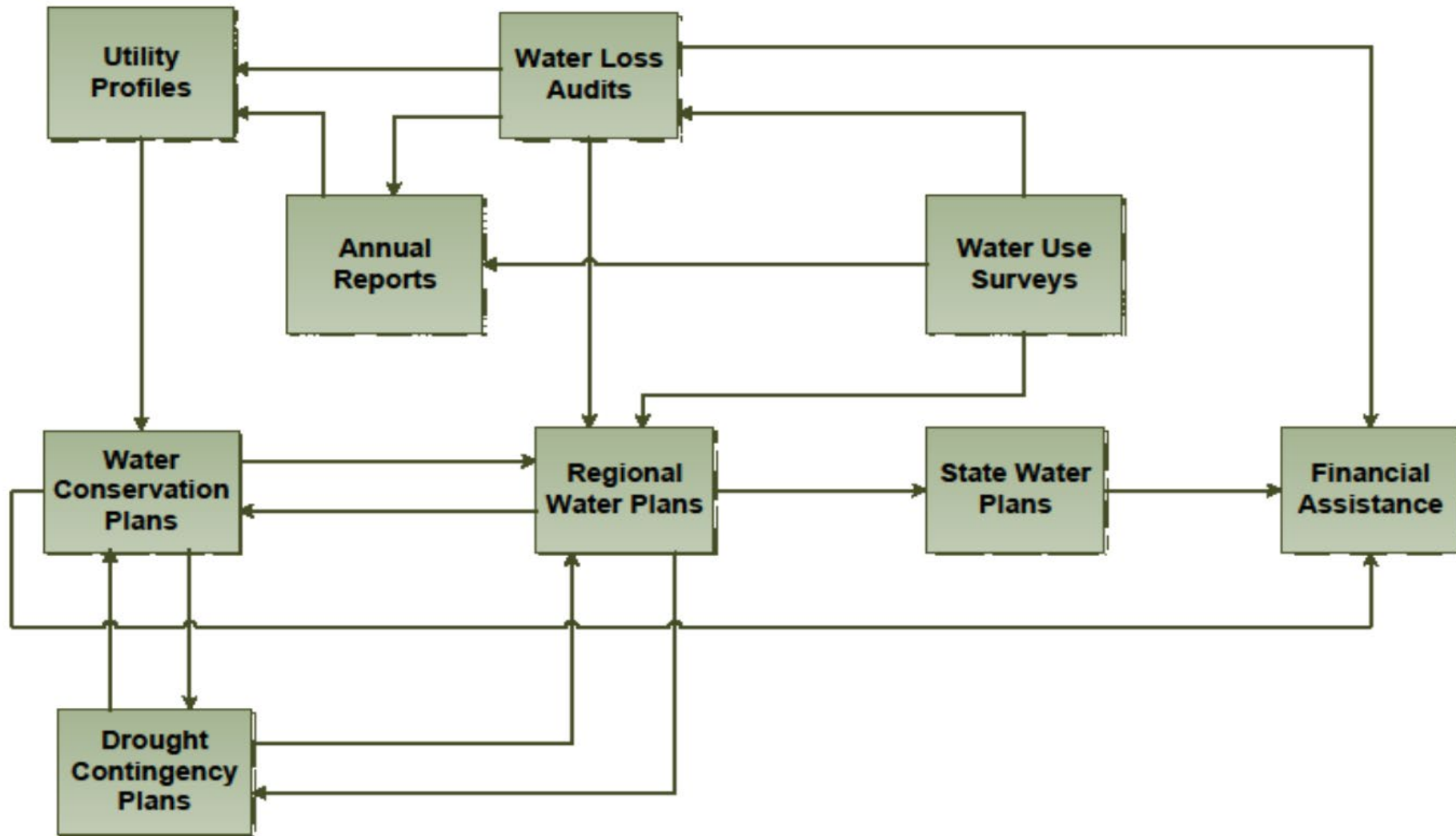
Water Conservation - programs, strategies, or activities to ensure water use efficiency for...

1. reducing the overall consumption of water,
2. increasing efficiency in the use of water,
3. reducing the loss or waste of water,
4. or increasing recycling and reuse of water.

One of the first water management strategies needed to be considered by the regional water planning groups when meeting a future need.

Reporting Requirements

- Water Use Survey – annual report for 7,000 entities
- Water Loss Audit – every 5 years for 4,000 retail water suppliers
- Water Loss Audit – annually for 600 retail water suppliers
 - active financial obligation with TWDB, or
 - having more than 3,300 connections
- Water Conservation Plan – revised every 5 years for 800 entities
 - TWDB financial obligation greater than \$500,000, or
 - having more than 3,3000 connections, or
 - certain surface water rights with TCEQ (includes certain agricultural irrigation users)
- Annual Conservation Report – implementation of plan/program



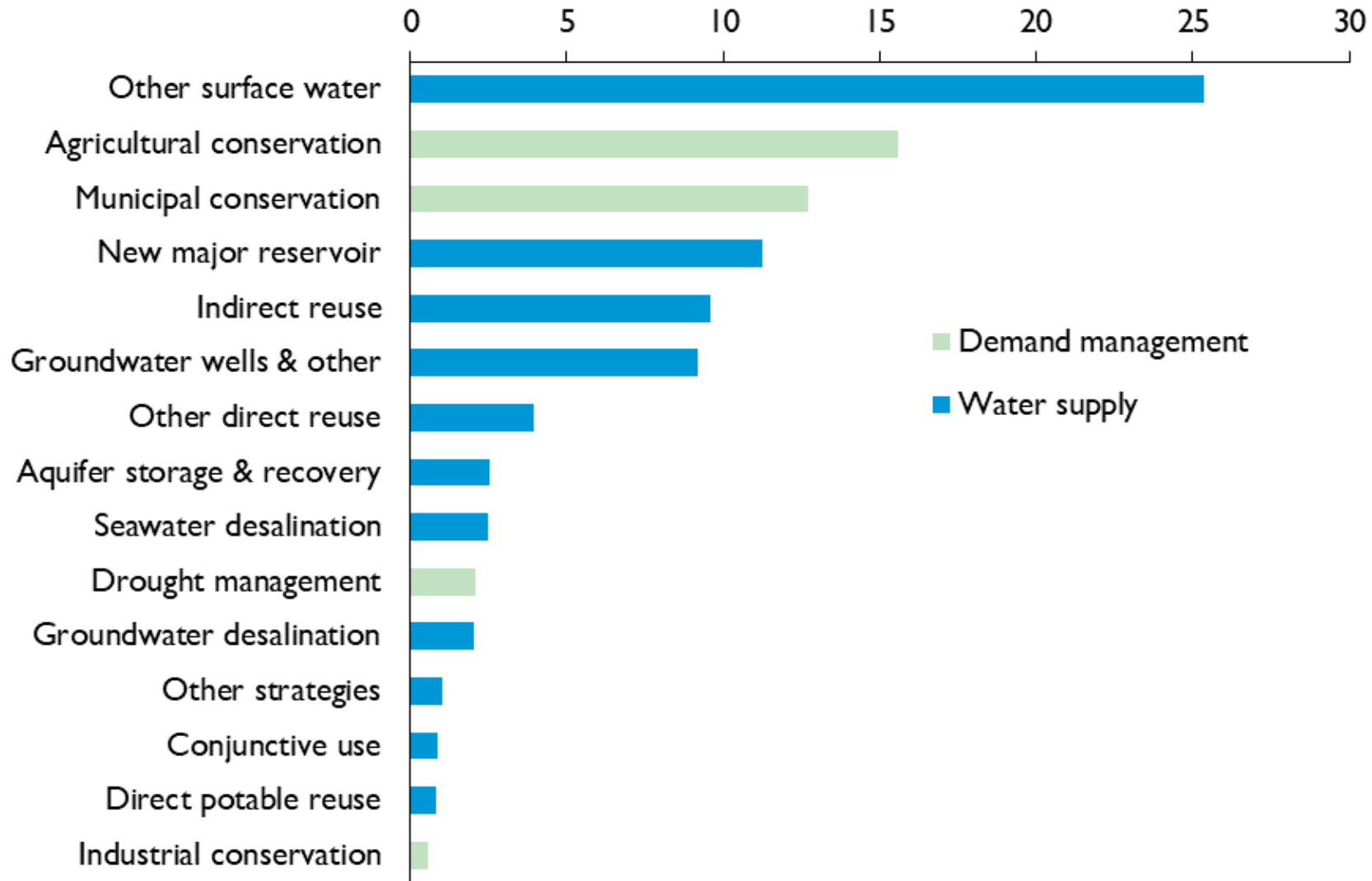
Data to the Regional Water Planning Groups

- Demand and population estimates
- Agricultural water use estimates
- Water Loss Audit data
- Targets and goals from Annual Conservation Reports
- Best Management Practices that are being implemented
- Copies of Water Conservation Plans provided by each entity

Conservation in the 2022 State Water Plan

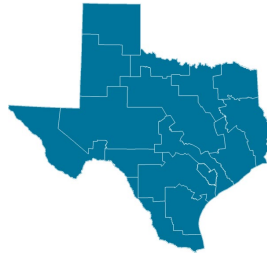
- Active conservation makes up 29 percent of total 2070 strategies volume with approximately:
 - **977,000 AF/YR in municipal conservation**
 - **1.2 million AF/YR in agricultural conservation**
 - **44,000 AF/YR industrial conservation**
- Recommended for over half of the ~3,000 water user groups
- > \$7 billion in capital costs

Share of Strategies by Type (% in 2070)



Implementation & Resources

- Funding for conservation and water loss mitigation
 - State Revolving Fund
 - Water supply projects must meet water loss thresholds, or include funding to mitigate or request a waiver
 - State Water Implementation Fund for Texas
 - Implementation of projects in the state water plan
- Workshops
 - Required to submit a water loss audit
 - Conservation planning and reporting
- Water Conservation Advisory Council
 - Policies and legislative recommendations
 - Best management practices



State Water Plan

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/swp/2022/index.asp>

Water Conservation

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/conservation/index.asp>

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